

Traffic Lights

Please see www.lmsg.nhs.uk
for further details



RED – Secondary care only

AMBER – Secondary care initiation, then
primary care with shared care agreement

GREEN – Primary or secondary care

BLACK – Not recommended for prescribing in primary or
secondary care (including new drugs that have not been
through the approval process).

RED

NEW Argatroban - anticoagulation in
patients with heparin induced
thrombocytopenia and renal impairment

AMBER - none this month

GREEN - none this month

BLACK

NEW Indacaterol / glycopyrronium
inhaler (Ultibro Breezhaler®) - COPD
NEW Acclidinium / formoterol inhaler
(Duaklir Genuair®) - COPD
NEW Sucroferric oxyhydroxide -
phosphate binder
NEW Dabigatran - venous
thromboembolism treatment &
prevention
NEW Dulaglutide (Trulicity®) - type 2
diabetes
NEW Omega-3 acid ethyl esters
(Dualtis®) - secondary prevention of MI,
hypertriglyceridaemia
NEW Ledipasvir / sofosbuvir (Harvoni®) -
chronic hepatitis C
NEW Darunavir / cobicistat (Rezolsta®) -
HIV

Comments & Feedback Contact

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Shared Care

UPDATED [Denosumab \(Prolia®\) SCA](#)

Updated following the MHRA drug safety update -
specialists to ensure dental examination is performed
before initiation and calcium checked 2 weeks after
initial dose if predisposed to hypocalcaemia. GP to
remind patient to have regular dental check ups.

Guidelines

UPDATED Vitamin D Deficiency Guidelines

Now 2 separate documents: [Adults](#) [Children](#)
Vitamin D level thresholds amended: <30nmol/L =
deficiency, 30-50nmol/L may be inadequate.
Updated preferred products.
Updated dosing regimen for adults.

UPDATED [Constipation Treatment Pathway](#)

The efficacy of prucalopride beyond 3 months has
not been demonstrated in studies. In case of
prolonged treatment, the benefit should be
reassessed at regular intervals.

UPDATED [Opioid Titration in Chronic Non-Palliative Pain](#)

Tapentadol CR and Targinact® now included (both
are **simple amber** on the traffic lights).
Essential that immediate release or controlled
release is specified on prescriptions for oxycodone to
avoid confusion over formulation.
Reminder: Tramadol is not recommended as a 1st or
2nd line opioid and fentanyl patches are not for use
in opioid naïve patients.

MHRA drug safety updates

[Ivabradine in the symptomatic treatment of angina:
risk of cardiac side effects - only initiate if the resting
heart rate is at least 70 bpm. Do not prescribe with
other medicines that cause bradycardia.](#)

[Isotretinoin: reminder of possible risk of psychiatric
disorders—warn patients and family; monitor
patients for signs of depression](#)

GPs are reminded to ensure red drugs are recorded
under other/hospital medication in clinical systems